

DFB-11229  
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 105-682

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| REPORT MADE AT<br><b>WASHINGTON, D.C.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | DATE WHEN MADE<br><b>AUG 1 1951</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE<br><b>6/18; 7/5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 19, 20/51</b>                     | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>CLIDE D. NICOLL</b> <span style="float: right;">CDN:ogw</span> |
| TITLE<br><b>VITOLDS FORMANIS, was.<br/>Vitold Porman, Victor Purvit,<br/>Vitold Pormanis, Victor Porman</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                     |                                                                                        | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R &amp; LA</b>                          |
| <p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; float: right; text-align: center;"> <b>MICROFILMED</b><br/> <b>MAR 12 1963</b><br/> <small>DOC. MICRO. SER.</small> </div> <p>Subject employed as salesman by King Merritt Co., Inc., since 6/11/51. Residing at 4607 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Apt. 609. No record of application for employment at Department of State. Subject issued quota immigration visa #1380 on Russian quota at Stuttgart, Germany 12/1/46; sailed from Bremerhaven 2/7/47 destined for AUGUST M. JACOBSON, cousin, 19449 Forest Road, Detroit, Mich. Subject not registered local office INS and MDW.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <p><b>DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>EMPLOYMENT</u></p> <p>Mr. LANDRUM S. ALLEN, Manager of the Washington office of the King Merritt Company, Inc., Room 203, Union Trust Company Building, advised that VICTOR PORMAN has been employed in that office since June 11, 1951, in the capacity of Mutual Fund Securities Salesman. Mr. ALLEN advised that the subject came to his attention through means of a personal advertisement for employment in Washington, D.C., placed in a local newspaper. Interviews with the subject were conducted in the Pontiac, Michigan, office of King Merritt Company, Inc., and the subject was recommended for employment</p> |                                     |                                                                                        |                                                                                     |
| APPROVED AND FORWARDED:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                     | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE                                                                |                                                                                     |
| COPIES OF THIS REPORT<br>5 - Bureau (105-10016)<br>3 - Detroit (66-1960)<br>2 - Washington Field                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                     | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES                                                           |                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                     | This is the result of an FBI investigation and is not to be considered as a clearance. |                                                                                     |
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either in the Washington office or the Pontiac office. Mr. ALLEN advised that the subject furnished the following background information:

Social Security No.: 385-28-0930  
Employments: September, 1939, to June, 1944 - General Motors Corporation, Overseas Division, Riga, Latvia, and Stockholm, Sweden;  
June, 1946, to June, 1951, GMC Truck and Coach Division, Assistant Parts Manager, Detroit, Michigan.  
Previous residences: 13237 Mark Twain Detroit 27, Michigan.  
References: Dr. RALPH H. PINO (Eye Specialist), David Whitney Building, Detroit, Michigan;  
Mrs. LILLIAN BARRON, Associate, "Felix Rhymes, Inc.", 7201 W. Fort Drive, Detroit, Michigan;  
Mrs. EDWARD JACOBSON, 5325 Bewick, Detroit, Michigan;  
Mr. THEODORE MATEGORIA, Chief Engineer, Bendix Corporation, 13189 Terry, Detroit, Michigan;  
Commonwealth Bank, Detroit, Michigan.  
Parents: MARTIN PORMAN, Councilman, Riga, Latvia, and ALMA PORMAN, Physician, Riga, Latvia.

Mr. ALLEN further advised that by letter dated April 20, 1950, in which PORMAN was discussing prospects of employment in Washington, the following additional background information was furnished. PORMAN indicated that he is a naturalized American, having been born in Denmark. He spent his boyhood in the United States returning to Europe where he completed his education, according to the wishes of his parents, and graduated from the University of Riga receiving a degree in International Law. At about this same time, he started to work for the General Motors Overseas Division and had one and one half years experience in the foreign trade office of the Latvian government. In this connection, he traveled all over Europe and made many business connections especially in France, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and Austria. PORMAN claims to fluently speak, read, and write English, German, Russian, and Latvian. After spending ten years in Europe, PORMAN returned to the United States in 1945 and renewed his connections with the General Motors Corporation. After a special training program at the General Motors Institute at Flint, Michigan, he was assigned to the GMC Truck and Coach Division in Detroit. He attended Wayne University for two years. PORMAN described himself as single, thirty-two years of age, and indicated that he desired to come to Washington for strictly personal reasons.

Mr. ALLEN advised that PORMAN indicated upon his arrival in Washington that he had no friends in the city and requested assistance in obtaining living quarters. Mr. ALLEN stated that he suggested that PORMAN share his, ALLEN's, apartment temporarily until other living quarters could be located. PORMAN indicated that about September 1st he plans to return to Detroit for the purpose of marriage. Mr. ALLEN stated that PORMAN had discussed briefly his present marital status, that being that he actually is married but that divorce proceedings are under way and that by September 1st he expects to be free to marry his present fiancée, who

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at the present time is occupying the apartment at 13237 Mark Twain, Detroit, Michigan, and where also he is keeping some of his personal belongings. Mr. ALLEN stated that PORMAN has spent the major portion of his time in Washington studying the material with which he must familiarize himself in order to become efficient in Mutual Fund Investment Securities selling. Mr. ALLEN stated that the first contacts and business deals handled by PORMAN have been entirely satisfactory and that he appears to be competent and reliable. PORMAN is insured through the Indemnity Insurance Company of North America and the Charles W. Sexton Insurance Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

PORMAN departed from Washington, D.C., for Detroit, Michigan, on July 12, 1951, by train and returned to Washington on July 17, 1951, by plane. During his stay in Detroit, PORMAN conducted some business transactions for the King Merritt Company, Inc., and obtained several new clients.

Mr. ALLEN stated that PORMAN has never discussed the possibility of seeking other employment in Washington and has indicated serious intentions of remaining in his present position. Mr. ALLEN stated that he has never heard PORMAN mention anything concerning the possibility of employment in the Department of State, nor has he indicated being acquainted with any individuals employed in that department.

Mr. DANIEL MEEKINS, Division of Foreign Service, Personnel Office, Department of State, advised that a check of the personnel files and the records of the Placement Office of the Division of Foreign Service and Departmental Personnel, Department of State, failed to disclose any information concerning the subject or of any record of an application for employment made with the Department of State by the subject.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

The records of T-1, another Governmental agency, reflect that immigration visa #1380 was issued to VITOLDS PORMANIS at the American Consulate, Stuttgart, Germany, on December 1, 1946. This visa was issued under the Russian quota. These files further reflect that PORMANIS sailed from Bremerhaven on February 7, 1947, accompanied by his wife, GAIDA PORMANIS, who held immigration visa #1379 also issued at the American Consulate, in Stuttgart, Germany. This record further reflects that PORMANIS was born on February 4, 1919, at Ribinsk, Russia. He was destined to AUGUST M. JACOBSON, a cousin, who resides at 19449 Forest Road, Detroit, Michigan.

The files of T-1 reflect information from a confidential source indicating that V. PORMANIS was a member of the Communist Party during the occupation of Latvia by the Reds in 1940-41. After the German forces entered Riga in 1941, PORMANIS was observed at the "TSHEKA-HOUSE" with a "Hakenkreuzband" (swastika arm band) on his left sleeve. PORMANIS was liberated by high German authorities following his arrest

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by the Latvian Contreinvestigators. In 1944, he boastfully walked around Riga without work or apparent occupation and two years later he boasted of having been freed from a German Concentration Camp in Esslingen as a displaced person.

A check of the records of the local field office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the files of the Military District of Washington failed to disclose any registration on the part of the subject in either of these offices.

PENDING